



CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA **MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024 L\$181.8138/US\$1.00 L\$179.9515/US\$1.00

These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia





VOL. 14 NO. 206

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

PRICE LD\$50.00

Guinean military allays fears

-Amid security concerns at the Liberia-Guinea border



Support Your Family Beyond Borders with MoMo.



to MoMo it in LRD or USD













Continental News

Furious row at UN as Russia blocks sitting there on his phone. How **Sudan ceasefire move**

condemned by the UK and ■ US, Russia has vetoed a draft UK-backed UN Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in Sudan.British Foreign Secretary David

n a move strongly (RSF), began a vicious struggle for power. The military is in control of the government. Monday's draft resolution, proposed by the UK and Sierra Leone, called on both sides to immediately halt hostilities and start talks aimed at



Lammy called the veto a "disgrace". But Russia accused the UK of meddling in Sudanese affairs without involving Sudan itself.Sudan's 19-month civil war is believed to have led to the deaths of tens of thousands of people. More than 11 million have been forced from their homes. Aid workers say the conflict has created the world's worst humanitarian crisis, with many thousands at risk of famine.Sudanese activists have been highly critical of the UN for being slow to respond to the conflict.It began in April last year after the army and a powerful paramilitary group, the Rapid Support Forces

agreeing a national ceasefire.It also called on the army and RSF to respect previous agreements to protect civilians, but specifically mentioned RSF attacks in the western region of Darfur and elsewhere in the country. Sudan's representative at the UN said that clauses that it wanted in the text were not included. Aside from Russia, all the other 14 Security Council member states voted in favour of the draft, but the veto meant the resolution did not pass."This Russian veto is a disgrace and it shows to the world yet again Russia's true colours," Lammy told the meeting in New York." I ask the Russian representative in all conscience many more Sudanese have to be killed? How many more women have to be raped? How many more children have to go without food before Russia will act?"US ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield was equally outspoken, accusing Russia of obstructing moves "to address the catastrophic situation in Sudan, and playing both sides - both sides of the conflict to advance its own political objectives, at the expense of Sudanese lives".

Russia was once seen as backing the RSF in the conflict, but appears to have switched sides. Russia's representative at the UN, Dmitry Polyanskiy, said that Sudanese sovereignty was being ignored, adding that the UK-backed resolution was "an attempt to give themselves an opportunity to meddle" in what was happening in Sudan.

"Shame on you, the UK!", he posted on X later. "For trying to push through a resolution that pours gasoline into [the] Sudan crisis leaving muddy waters for Western countries, that they love so much in former colonies, to push for their agenda. "Sudan analyst Alex de Waal described this as an absolutely extraordinary" argument to make in the face of the humanitarian catastrophe - the total state collapse of Sudan and the fact that the government is only able to govern a very small corner of the country".

From political o

ahamudu Bawumia soared from being a political outsider to become Ghana's second-in-command - and in December he could make history as the country's first Muslim president.Bawumia, currently chosen by the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) as their candidate for the forthcoming general election.

The 61-year-old Tottenham Hotspur supporter has quite the reputation. He is an intellectual educated at Oxford University, is never seen without his signature slim, rectangular glasses and has been dubbed "Mr Digital" thanks to his pledge to whip Ghana into a technological heavyweight.But because he is head of the government's economic management team, many Ghanaians associate Bawumia with the punishing cost of living crisis they're experiencing.

Should Bawumia overcome the criticism and win the election, he will replace his current boss President Nana Akufo-Addo, who is approaching the end of his two-term limit."Mr Digital" barrelled onto the political scene in 2008, sparking bemusement and scepticism.

Bawumia was a 44-year-old who had Ghana's vice-president, was never held public office, yet Akufo-Addo - then a mere presidential candidate - had chosen him as a running mate.Bawumia's father Alhaii Mumuni had served in Ghana's earliest governments after the country gained independence from Britain in 1957, working closely with

revered Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah.But the younger Bawumia had forged a career in economics and banking - serving as the deputy governor of Ghana's central bank.

To many commentators and NPP insiders, it made no sense for Akufo-Addo to pick Bawumia over seasoned party members. Akufo-Addo ended up losing the election to John Atta Mills from the National Democratic Congress (NDC) by a tiny margin. Bawumia lost out on the VP job - but his charismatic campaign had silenced the naysayers.



Catholic Church rejects \$40,000 from Kenya's president

enya's Catholic Church has rejected a donation of about \$40,000 (£32,000) made by President William Ruto.He offered the money towards the building of a priest's house and as a gift to the choir during Mass on Sunday at the Soweto Catholic Church in the capital, Nairobi.

The donation followed a recent statement by Catholic bishops, who had hit out at the government for failing to fulfil their electoral promises. Churches have been under pressure this year from young anti-tax protesters who have accused them of being close too t o politicians. Following Ruto's much-publicised donation on Sunday, many Kenyans urged the Catholic Church to reject the money. The president had given around 2.6m Kenyan shillings (\$20,000, £16,000) in cash, pledged the rest of the money later and also promised to give the parish a bus. The Catholic Archbishop of Nairobi, Philip Anyolo, said the cash would be returned over "ethical concerns and the need to safeguard the Church from being used for political purposes". He also declined his

donations.But the relationship was still perceived to be close - with young demonstrators accusing the churches of siding with the government when it decided to impose new taxes earlier this year. Under the social media hashtag #OccupyChurch, many hit out at the churches for failing to take their side during the deadly protests that erupted in response to the planned tax hikes. The uproar forced President's Ruto's government to withdraw the controversial finance bill in July. Then last week, the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops - which represents all Catholic bishops in the country accused the government of perpetuating a "culture of lies". In a scathing statement, it also raised issues about over-taxation, corruption, violation of human rights, freedom of speech, unemployment as well as a "crumbling" education system and healthcare services."Despite the calmness we are experiencing, there is a lot of anxiety and most people are losing trust in the government," it said. In response, President Ruto appeared to hit back at the clergy, saying "we must be careful to give factual information lest we become victims of the things we accuse others of doing". A senator allied to government, Aaron



of Nairobi, Johnson Sakaja who attended the same service, was also being handed back."The Catholic Church strongly discourages the use of church events such as fundraisers and gatherings as platforms for political selfpromotion," Archbishop Anyolo said.Such donations were in breach of the church directives as well as the Kenyan law, he added.

The long ties between churches and political institutions - in a country where more than 80% of the population are Christian seem to be fraying. Three years ago, established churches banned politicians from using the pulpit during

services in return for

other pledges and said a Cheruiyot, also accused the church donation of 200,000 Kenyan of "misinformation", adding that the shillings made by the Governor "clergy must avoid being purveyors of propaganda, fake news and falsehoods". Many of Kenya's Christians are Catholic - estimated to number 10 million, about 20% of the population, according to government statistics.Other Christians belong to a variety of evangelical churches and other denominations, including the Anglican Church of Kenya - which has defended the Catholic Church's position. Anglican Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit said the Catholic bishops had reflected the feelings of many Kenyans."Calling church leaders names or dismissing the bishops' statement as 'misleading, erroneous and false,' is itself dishonest," he said. "The [Catholic] bishops have spoken the minds of Kenyans and faithfully expressed the truth as things are on the ground."BBC

EDITORIAL

Giving coins to children is dangerous

Children in homes across Liberia are not safe enough. Not least with newly minted 5 and 10 Liberian Dollar coins in their reach. This is because most kids take these coins as toys and usually placed them in their mouths, and eventually swallow them with health implications.

Children are exposed to coins both in homes, school campuses and outside where the metals are given as change when they go buy bread, juice, candy, biscuit and other snacks during recess.

The situation is scaring, leaving a health practitioner in Monrovia to alarm recently, alerting the public especially, parents. A concerned X-ray technician, Jackson Coleman, revealed that he has handled 28 cases, and 12 of them were children requiring surgery after swallowing coins.

The alarming discovery is sparking growing concern among medical professionals and parents alike, as the ingestion of coins might lead to serious health risks, including choking, internal injury, or damage to the digestive system and other organs of the body.

As a parent, imagine yourself one day returning home from work or from business activity and being confronted with situation involving your little kid swallowing pieces of coins that could lead to unforeseen consequences. Surely this is not an experience you want to have.

The 5 and 10 Liberian dollar coins are part of a new family of currency issued by the Central Bank of Liberia, as part of a currency reform. The coins are made of nickel-plated steel and feature a latent image security feature.

Parents are being advised to be extra vigilant and ensure that these coins, which have become more common in daily transactions, are kept out of reach of children. This means they should not be kept or placed loosely in homes that children can easily access.

The Central Bank of Liberia is yet to comment on the situation, but we think there is a need for public education on radio, in communities and schools about keeping coins from reach of children to minimize risks.

All hands should be brought on deck to advert a potential health problem for our children. Remember, 'a stitch in time saves nine.'

The coins are necessary to make daily transactions easier especially in market places and when riding taxi or commercial tricycles. But keeping them away from children especially minors, is safer.



Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc., UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission. Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 / +231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

www.thenewdawnliberia.com

By Gordon Brown

Crunch Time for the WHO

DINBURGH - At this month's G20 erupts.

global readiness for public-health crises, children. issued a stark warning: a new mpox contain its spread.

The risk of new pandemics is driven not increasingly likely.

outbreaks has improved, thanks to the emergency health responder. significant scientific and technological napping."

Given the stakes, improving pandemic contribute their fair share. preparedness is essential. To this end, respond to health emergencies and must-do better. hinder multilateral cooperation.

summit in Rio de Janeiro, chaired The report also outlines several steps by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio that policymakers could take to mitigate Lula da Silva, global leaders are these threats and improve pandemic expected to discuss the World Health preparedness, including regular risk Organization's call for long-term assessments and bolstering health-system investment in public health. Through its resilience. First, however, significant new Investment Round, the WHO aims to funding is needed to meet the "basic raise at least \$7.1 billion to support needs of vulnerable populations," essential initiatives over the next four provide access to "medical years, reducing the need to rely on countermeasures" like vaccines and emergency funding whenever a crisis treatments, and foster cross-sector collaboration.

A recent report by the Global Beyond pandemic preparedness, the Preparedness Monitoring Board WHO urgently needs funding to provide underscores the importance of this basic care to more than four billion Investment Round. The GPMB, an people who currently lack access, to curb independent body established by the the spread of communicable diseases, WHO and the World Bank to enhance and to address a surge in unvaccinated

variant spreading rapidly across Central Most critically, more than 360 million Africa has the potential to become a people in crisis-stricken countries like pandemic. Meanwhile, H5N1 bird flu Afghanistan, Ukraine, South Sudan, continues to jump from infected Ethiopia, and Yemen require immediate livestock to humans in the United States, assistance and specialized medical and an outbreak of Marburg - a virus supplies to deal with the devastating related to Ebola with a fatality rate of up effects of conflicts, famines, droughts, to 88% - has erupted in Rwanda, and floods. To avert a global health prompting international efforts to catastrophe, the international community must ensure they receive the resources they desperately need.

only by factors like mass travel, urban Fifty-four chronic health crises are population density, and human currently unfolding worldwide, 11 of encroachment on wildlife habitats, but them classified as severe. Despite this, a also by widening inequalities within recent study by the research group countries and an alarming rise in Airfinity reveals that support for health extreme poverty. Together, these forces projects in low- and middle-income do more than strain local health systems; countries has declined, with these they are reshaping the global health initiatives receiving only about 10% of landscape in ways that make the humanitarian funding and just 5% of the emergence of novel pathogens necessary resources. To reduce preventable deaths from treatable diseases, we must empower the WHO to In theory, our ability to contain fulfill its mandate as the world's leading

advances made during the fight against Recognizing the urgency and value of COVID-19. But as the GPMB report warns, investing in public health, 18 of Africa's without "the readiness plans primed for and Asia's poorest countries have pledged implementation from day one," there is more than \$345 million to the WHO's every likelihood that the next Investment Round. If developing pandemic will again catch the world economies can rise to the occasion despite their limited resources, it is imperative that developed countries

the GPMB report highlights 15 drivers of But the WHO's Investment Round is more pandemic risks, such as unprecedented than just a fundraising campaign; what levels of global travel and a rapid we raise this year to combat diseases like increase in livestock production, both of malaria, measles, diabetes, dysentery, which accelerate the spread of H5N1. and Ebola will profoundly affect the Emerging threats also include health and well-being of millions of widespread misinformation and distrust people around the world. Failing to of public institutions - evident in the provide the WHO with the funds it needs controversies over COVID-19 lockdowns, to deliver equitable vaccination, quarantines, and vaccination mandates - treatment, and care would leave an that weaken our collective ability to indelible scar on humanity. We can - and

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2024. www.project-syndicate.org

WEDNESDAY

By Raila Amolo Odinga

The G20 Must Help Africa Close the Climate-Finance Gap

AIROBI - In a world grappling with unprecedented climate challenges, the addition of a permanent seat in the G20 for the African Union represents a critical opportunity. As the continent faces increasingly frequent and severe floods, droughts, and heat waves - bearing the brunt of a crisis it did not create - it urgently needs financial support to escape the cycle of debt and disaster that impedes climate resilience and sustainable development.

The path forward is clear: wealthy G20 economies must move beyond rhetoric and provide sustainable, long-term climate financing and concessional loans to help Africa close the current funding gap. As the group's leaders gather in Rio de Janeiro for the G20 summit on November 18-19, the world - and especially African countries - will be watching closely.

Africa's seat in the G20 is long overdue, reflecting both its growing importance and the severity of the crises it faces. But representation alone is not enough. Africa's inclusion must lead to real support and tangible benefits for local communities grappling with economic, environmental, and energy challenges.

For too long, Africa has been relegated to the periphery of the global economy. Now that it is represented in the G20, the world's largest economies have a responsibility to dismantle the entrenched structures that keep the continent and other developing regions impoverished.

The energy sector is a prime example. Despite decades of promises by political leaders, fossil fuels have failed to deliver electricity to vast swaths of the continent. With 600 million Africansstill living without power, Africa's energy "transition" is less about moving from dirty to clean energy and more about moving from no energy to sustainable sources.

The stakes could not be higher. Africa's future growth and prosperity hinges on its ability to provide universal, affordable, and reliable access to energy. Fortunately, the continent possesses abundant renewable-energy resources, with experts projecting that solar power will be the continent's cheapest electricity source by 2030.

Morocco's Noor Ouarzazate solar complex, the world's largest solar farm, demonstrates what African countries can achieve with adequate funding and support. Similarly, projects like Kenya's Olkaria geothermal power plants, funded by the Japanese government, and Ethiopia's Adama wind farms, backed by Chinese concessional loans, show that Africa's energy goals are well within reach.

But to unlock its vast potential in renewables, Africa needs substantial financial investment and technical support. To this end, the continent's development must be central to the global push to triple renewable-energy production by 2030. Creating meaningful economic opportunities for Africans requires rooting these efforts in secure, self-sustaining frameworks that serve the needs of local communities, rather than perpetuating the exploitative model of resource extraction that has characterized fossil fuels. With expanded energy capacity, Africa could foster industries that produce green, value-added goods, reducing the continent's reliance on raw-material exports. Achieving this, however, requires more than energy security; it calls for comprehensive reforms to the global trade systems that stifle economic growth in developing countries and undermine their competitiveness. The G20's support is crucial to achieving this transformation.

The moment has come to turn promises into concrete action. The United Nations' annual climate change conferences (COPs), long characterized by lofty rhetoric, can no longer serve as forums for symbolic gestures. G20 countries must urgently make and honor the proposed pledge to provide developing countries with \$1 trillion annually in long-term, grant-based climate financing. This is not an arbitrary figure; for the world's least developed economies, it is the difference between stagnation and genuine progress. The G20 summit in Brazil - coinciding with COP29 in Azerbaijan - could help secure the necessary funds by creating reliable and innovative financing mechanisms, from taxes on the ultra-rich to levies on airplane tickets, financial transactions, and fossil-fuel production.

As the climate crisis intensifies, the global financial system must evolve to support those most affected by its devastating effects. To make development financing more accessible and equitable, the G20 must advance vital reforms, such as providing multilateral development banks with more capital and streamlining cumbersome bureaucratic processes.

Earlier this year, Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, a vocal champion of the Global South, addressed the African Union summit in Addis Ababa and pledged to use Brazil's G20 presidency to advocate for Africa's interests. This act of solidarity set the stage for the G20 summit, where leaders must address the pressing need for climate financing. For African countries, these funds are more than just financial assistance; they represent hope for meaningful change, economic resilience, and sustainable development in a world shaped by deepening inequality, environmental fragility, and social crises.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. <u>www.project-syndicate.org</u>

OPINION

By Glenda Gray

NEW DAWN

The World's Babies Need Antibiotics, Not Just Vaccines

APE TOWN - Over the last half-century, the number of children who die before reaching the age of five has fallen dramatically, from around 20 million in 1960 to 4.9 million in 2022, largely owing to the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI). Established by the World Health Organization in 1974, the EPI has been extraordinarily successful in providing the youngest people with access to vaccines, saving more than 150 million lives. But while such progress is worthy of celebration, there is still much work to do, because newborns comprise half of all deaths in children under five each year, many of which are caused by infection.

Progress on reducing neonatal mortality has historically been much slower than for children under five, and has begun to stall in recent decades, despite significant reductions in mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis. That is because many of these deaths are caused by treatable -but untreated - bacterial infections. To reverse this trend, the international community must ensure that all children - especially in the African countries where most of these deaths occur - can access antibiotics, much like the EPI has done for vaccines.

Infants are particularly susceptible to infections in the first 28 days of life. As a pediatrician, I saw this firsthand when I was younger, working in the neonatal ICU at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto. It is possible to ward off some kinds through infection prevention and control; access to water, sanitation, and hygiene; and vaccines. But for those that cannot be prevented, antibiotics are needed to avert further complications such as sepsis, which affects up to three million newborns per year.

Unfortunately, most African countries lack access to existing and new antibiotics, putting already-vulnerable babies at a much higher risk of dying from treatable infections. Shortages of generic versions can be largely attributed to the steady exit of pharmaceutical companies from the antibiotic market in recent decades, owing to low returns. Similarly, new antibiotics are often sold in only the wealthiest countries or priced out of reach for most African governments and citizens.

For example, less than half of the new antibiotics approved between 1999 and 2014 were registered in more than ten countries. Worse, only four of the 40 new antibiotics approved since 2000 are labeled for pediatric use. When drug development is driven primarily by profitability, rather than public-health needs, infants in poorer countries - one of the world's most vulnerable populations - get the short end of the stick.

If clinicians cannot access the right first-line antibiotics or use them because of a drug-resistant infection, they often turn to those that are specialized or kept in reserve as a last resort. These substitutes can be less effective, and reliance on them increases the risk of drug resistance developing, making infections more difficult to treat in the long term (although African countries are often priced out of these last-resort antibiotics, too).

As a result, children under five account for one in five deaths caused by drugresistant infections, with 99.7% of them living in low- and middle-income countries. At the same time, the failure to treat these infections in newborns is fueling the rise and spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), which is already associated with 4.7 million deaths annually.

No country can tackle this problem alone. To ensure that all infants are protected from infection requires an EPI-scale global initiative to help developing countries build their capacity and surveillance, identify the necessary antibiotics, and bolster their health systems. Equally important, we must dramatically increase the availability of existing antibiotics and spur the development of new ones that are safe and effective for children. Both imperatives require prioritizing public health over profit.

The United Nations High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance recently produced a political declaration committing countries to reduce global AMR-associated deaths by 10% per year until 2030. Donor governments can begin doing this - and saving the lives of newborns - by supporting organizations like mine, the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership, which are working to improve access to and encourage the development of antibiotics.

The WHO's Pediatric Drug Optimization exercises have made a shortlist of antibiotics that should be prioritized above all others for pediatric use. But stakeholders, including the WHO, regulatory agencies, the pharmaceutical industry, non-profit developers, and pediatric experts, must collaborate to shepherd such treatments through development and approval. Preventing infant deaths from treatable infections would go a long way toward stopping the spread of AMR and safeguarding our future.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. <u>www.project-syndicate.org</u>

2ND THOUGHT



2024

What's driving Liberia's foreign policy?

ecent reports that Russia has announced plans to open an embassy in Liberia as part of its effort to expand its diplomatic footprint across Africa have ignited a new debate and raised questions about what is driving Liberia's foreign policy. In plain English, Liberia's foreign policy is firmly rooted in its political ideology of liberalism, democracy, and capitalism. It is modeled after the pattern adopted by the United States.

However, a foreign policy generally is a compendium of different strategies a country uses to guide its relationships with other countries and international organizations influenced by interests. Mutual interests are expressed in every relationship. How the parties maximize those expressed interests is left to them individually. A bilateral relationship between two countries is established through diplomatic interactions, trade agreements, and cultural exchanges to enhance mutual benefits. These mutual benefits are spelled out.

Thus, countries should have clear-cut goals or agendas before entering any bilateral relationship; they should know what they want and who to befriend to get it. These clear-cut goals should be tied to the country's national development agenda, which should be the driving force for entering into bilateral relationships with strategic partners.

National Agendas are long-term plans whose implementation spans ten years and requires periodic updating and revisions. They include a set of national indicators in education, healthcare, economy, police and security, housing, infrastructure, and government services. The ultimate purpose of National Agenda is to achieve sustainable development through a transformation program. It promotes an inclusive environment that integrates all segments of society.

This is where strategic partners come in, and choosing these partners strategically to target individual pilar within a national development agenda is very important. Rather than a country spreading its net or its leader traveling around with a laundry list of development needs and wishing for any country to come to its aid, it is not strategic. It leaves donor partners confused. Each strategic partner has its unique strength. Therefore, when deciding to enter a bilateral relationship with another country, it is important to know what you want from that country. Your interests and having a clear-cut goal for that relationship are more important than wasting resources.

For example, the United States could be a strategic partner in energy and electricity, Germany for Hospitals and vocational schools, China for roads and bridges, Isreal for security and counter-terrorism training, Education the United Kingdom, Japan for airports and technology, The Netherlands for seaports and so on. Meanwhile, in the absence of a clear-cut national agenda and targeting strategic partners to serve your country's agenda, such a bilateral relationship is a waste of state resources.

It is critical to note that a national agenda without a clear, developed roadmap to achieve it is mere words on paper. Knowing what you want is one thing but knowing what to do to achieve it and committing to that is another. It is good for a country to expand its diplomatic footprint across nations, but it should do so based on its interests. What can this country offer my country, and how does it contribute to my country's development agenda? Are key questions to consider when entering diplomatic relationships the cost-benefit factors.

Liberia's national vision should be a working tool for all administrations and a desire to implement the right programs to achieve it. This vision should be legislated to compel every government to commit to such an agenda by law. The indicators within the vision should be stand-alone items in the budget. Liberia's National Budget has been recurrent expenditure-based and not development-oriented year on year, hindering progress in achieving the country's development goals.

The Boakai regime can get this right if it has a clearly defined goal and looks for strategic bilateral partners for each pillar of the ARREST Agenda. The author holds a master's degree in International Relations from the University of Liberia, with high distinction.



Listen to the Future

s we celebrate World Children's Day, November 20th, 35 years on from the adoption of the most universally ratified human rights Convention or Treaty in the world, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), we reflect not only on the progress made in Liberia but also on the risks and opportunities ahead. Children make up nearly 42% of Liberia's population so we would be advised to pay close attention to this year's theme, "Listen to the future"; listen to the voices of its youngest citizens.

As the Government of Liberia closes in on the completion of its next five-year development plan, the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID), we celebrate its alignment with the principles enshrined in the CRC, signed, and ratified by Liberia in 1990 and 1993 respectively and adopted into domestic legislation with the passing of the Child Act in 2011. As we reflect on progress and new frontiers for children in Liberia on World Children's Day, we call for a set of measures that collectively can be transformative in the lives of Liberian children and can set an agenda for implementation within the AAID in the years to come.

When I assumed my duties as UNICEF's Representative in Liberia in February 2024, shortly after the elections, I expressed my honor to serve and my commitment to the promotion and protection of children's rights in the country. I understood something of the unique challenges and opportunities facing children in Liberia from my previous experiences in the country towards the end of the civil war and during the Ebola pandemic and pledged to work closely with the government and partners to support them. Now, after almost nine months in the job, I can see some tangible signs of progress in key areas for children's development - the launch of the "Back to my Classroom Campaign' from the Ministry of Education, the launch of the Child Survival Strategy and Action Plan from the Ministry of Health and the initiative from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to reunify children living and working on the streets with their families.

A core principle of the CRC is non-discrimination, ensuring every child, regardless of background, has access to opportunities. The AAID Agenda's focus on inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction, particularly targeting children, youth, and marginalized groups, supports this commitment. Reducing child poverty through targeted interventions and social protection measures is crucial to achieving these goals. Programs aimed at increasing employment and educational access are at the core of creating the socio-economic conditions where all children can thrive.

Health, nutrition, education, and a protective environment with access to clean water and improved hygiene and sanitation are critical to children's survival and positive development. By prioritizing these areas, the AAID aligns with the CRC's mandate to ensure that children's best interests are a primary consideration in national development. Infrastructure improvements in healthcare and education and an investment in human capital in these sectors are critical steps towards improving both access to essential services and the quality of these services.

The right to quality education is fundamental under the CRC. The AAID's education reforms, including skills development and vocational training, are vital for equipping children with the tools they need to succeed. Through the "Back to My Classroom" campaign—a joint initiative between the Ministry of Education and UNICEF—progress is underway to massively increase school enrollment and attendance rates over the next three years. Efforts to increase educational access, especially in underserved regions, demonstrate a commitment to providing every child with a fair start in life. We call for strengthening of decentralized structures for efficient service delivery, linked to equitable evidence-informed policies to strengthen the capacity of school principals and teachers to provide quality education as children's access progressively increases.

The AAID's healthcare initiatives aim to tackle high child mortality rates and malnutrition, addressing critical challenges that have long affected children's survival and development. Expanding healthcare facilities and targeted efforts to combat malnutrition are necessary to ensure children can lead healthy lives. We call for a dedicated budget allocation for nutrition and food security in the national budget to support the implementation of programs targeting children, including adolescents. Additionally, we advocate for the integration of comprehensive nutrition education into school curricula to promote healthy eating habits among children and adolescents from an early age.

This year, for World Children's Day, we strongly call for "Health Equity for Every Child in Liberia". We emphasize that no child in Liberia be left behind in accessing essential health services, especially those in hard-to-reach areas and underserved communities. We call for Government's investment from domestic funds for Community - based Primary Health Care (CBPHC), targeting a motivated community health workforce that is skilled, kitted, salaried and deployed, bringing health services closer to every child. Immunization, including new vaccines like Measles-Rubella and malaria, saves lives from vaccinepreventable diseases and strengthens the quality of care to reduce outbreaks such as measles and polio. We call for collective action among government, donors, and civil society to guarantee children's health rights through strengthened partnerships and commitments.

NOVEMBER 20

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Senate to conduct a separate hearing on the draft national budget resource envelope of USD 791.76 Million, constituting 93 resource envelope of USD

The ongoing crisis at the House of Representatives has led the Senate to consider conducting a separate hearing on the draft National Budget.

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, November separately. On Tuesday, 20, 2024: The Plenary November 19, 2024, the of the Liberia Senate Senate read the has decided to hear and communication from the



scrutinize the 2025 draft National Budget separately in the wake of an ongoing political crisis at the House of Representatives. Normally, the Liberian Senate and the House of Representatives would conduct a joint hearing on the draft National Budget. The idea is to save time and effectively make adjustments in the budget. This is mostly done by both

houses' committees on Ways, Means, Finance, and Budget. However, due to the impasse in the House of Representatives, the Senate will review the budget Presidency that accompanied the draft National Budget. The Senate mandated its

Committee on Ways, Means, Finance, and Budget to independently scrutinize the draft 2025 National budget.The 2025 Draft National Budget submitted to the Senate is in the total amount of USD851.76 million. It was submitted on Monday, November 18, 2024, through a written communication by

President Joseph Nyuma Boakai to Senate President Pro-Tempore Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence.

It accounts for its domestic

791.76 Million, constituting 93 percent of the total envelope. The draft budget is categorized into its revenue envelope, expenditure categories, and major sources. Under spending priorities, President Boakai said USD 52.9 Million is being allocated for roads and infrastructure. This will include the rehabilitation of rural roads and the construction of bailey bridges across the country.

Also included in the priority spending is the counterpart funding for ongoing works on key road corridors, such as Saclepea-Zwedru, and the Sannniquelle-Loguatuo highway.

Additionally, USD 15 Million has been set aside for the Pliable Road Program and infrastructure.

Other interventions will include the rehabilitation of the road from Freeport of Monrovia to St. Paul Bridge, as well as the expansion of the Liberia Broadcasting System to have LNTV available in all 15 County capital cities.

President Boakai disclosed that there are upward shifts in the expenditure for sectors that will be impactful.He added that the proportion of the Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP) has an increment by thirty-one percent from FY2024 US\$67.4

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

Liberia loses US\$17.5 million annually

-First Lady Kartumu Boakai reveals

Liberia is losing US\$17.5 million annually to poor sanitation, First Lady Mrs. Kartumu Yarta Boakai, reveals here.

November 20, 2024 -Liberia loses US\$17.5 million annually to poor sanitation, First Lady Mrs. Kartumu Yarta Boakai, reveals here. The lack of access to adequate sanitation is more than an inconvenience. It is a crisis that undermines health, equality, and development.

Over 35% of Liberia's population still practices open defecation due to insufficient access to proper toilet facilities. First Lady Mrs Boakai was speaking Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at World Toilet Day commemoration. The program was organized by the Liberia National WASH Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Health held at the EJS Ministerial Complex in Congo

Madam Boakai notes that this practice contributes to spread of fecal-oral and water-borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and diarrhea - diseases,

the day is not just about sanitation onrovia, Liberia, facilities; it is a moment for reflection, advocacy, and collective action on an issue that impacts millions of Liberians' dignity, health, and well-being. "As the Champion of Maternal and

NEW DAWN

Newborn Health, our First Lady has passionately advocated for the health and dignity of mothers and children. She reminds us that no mother should fear for her child's life because of a lack of safe sanitation, and no woman should face indignity or danger in accessing a basic facility. For women, particularly during pregnancy and menstruation, inadequate sanitation increases vulnerability to infections and complications that could otherwise be prevented", he says. Mr. Ali continues that these realities are unacceptable in a world where solutions are within reach, adding that sanitation is not just a matter of infrastructure, but justice, equality, and human dignity.

Touching on government's ARREST Agenda and National



By: Kruah Thompson

onrovia, Liberia, November 20, 2024 -The Liberian government announces here that beginning January 2025, the least monthly salary civil servants is US\$150.

In line with the Decent Work Act of 2015 and as outlined in the draft budget for FY2025, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has authorized the Ministry of Finance to allocate more than sixteen million US dollars to adjust salaries of employees' and tackle challenges facing the public sector.

This funding will also support monthly salary increases for nurses, midwives, and physician assistants, with top-ups ranging from US\$25 to US\$50. These healthcare workers will receive a US\$50 salary boost per month, while other health workers will receive between US\$25 and US\$40, depending on their

positions. Similarly,

government employees in the this law, over 5,000 members of agriculture and security the Liberia National Police will sectors, including AFL soldiers, be provided with insurance EPS personnel, police officers, coverage fully-funded by the and agriculture extension Government, beginning workers, will also benefit January 2025. This initiative is monthly salary top-ups ranging expected to offer additional from US\$30 to US\$40.

In addition, final part of the public servants, who continue of the National Security Act of challenging conditions. 2015, which mandates the Making the disclosure on first-ever implementation of

support to these dedicated 2025 income support strategy to sacrifice for the collective entails implementing provision security of the state under

Government of Liberia to cover Tuesday, November 19, 2024, insurance costs for all active- Minister of Finance and duty police officers. In the Development Planning,

CONT'D ON PAGE 7



elderly.

mortality rates, rob children of their futures, and place undue financial burdens on families and the healthcare system.

"The economic cost is equally staggering, with an estimated \$17.5 million lost annually due to poor sanitation", the First Lady further laments, but adds, "We can tackle this issue effectively, these funds could be redirected to development and education."

Delivering the First Lady's speech on her behalf, the Managing Director of the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC), Mo Ali, says Madam Boakai could not have chosen anyone better to speak on her

behalf than the Managing

she laments, that Commitment, he says the disproportionately affect Government of Liberia is women, children, and the prioritizing sanitation through the ARREST Agenda, which focuses on The human cost is immense. Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, These preventable illnesses Education, Sanitation, and drive up maternal and child Tourism. "Sanitation is central to this framework because we understand that development cannot occur without safe water and sanitation systems."

He says two key initiatives - the Roadmap to End Open Defecation and the Presidential WASH Compact 2030 serve as cornerstones of this commitment. "These are not just policy documents; they are actionable plans that will be implemented with urgency to ensure universal sanitation access by 2030", the LWSC boss says, and notes that under the leadership of President Joseph Boakai, and in partnership

with the WASH Commission,

government is taking bold steps to

address the crisis head-on.He

outlines stakeholders' initiatives

Director of the LWSC, because on behalf of the First Lady, and

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Starts from page 6

million to FY2025, amounting to USD\$98 million USD\$52.9 million for Roads and Infrastructure. He also spoke of USD 37.6 million for the rehabilitation of major roads. Accordingly, more than US\$16m has been allotted to fund the first set of measures in a multi-year effort aimed at addressing some remuneration challenges and concerns in the public sector.

This measure will cover volunteer workers in the health sector, agriculture, security, and education

Senate to conduct a separate hearing sectors ranging from US\$25 to also highlighted that the

50 dollars.

physician assistants will receive US\$50 salary top-ups per month, while other health

sectors, including AFL soldiers, EPS, and Police officers, as well as agriculture extension workers, will benefit from salary top-ups ranging from USD\$30 to US\$40 per month.

proposed increases do not put Nurses, midwives, and the country at a level envisioned through the ARREST agenda. Notwithstanding, he said it should be construed as a effort to address issues and

As part of the reforms to the revenue and tax administration system, President Boakai said he is considering several new regulations and legislations that would provide clarity in the way different levels of income

workers will receive US\$25 to first year-action and multi-year US\$40 based on their levels. Accordingly, other concerns in public sector government employees in the remuneration. agriculture and Security

Meanwhile, President Boakai are taxed.

JNB Foundation launches youths outreach program -To mark President Boakai's birthday celebration

President Joseph Boakai seeks to use his pending birthday celebration to raise money for the JNB Foundation to support students in Liberia.

By James Kokulo Fasuekoi | Editor-Publisher

aynesville, Liberia, November 20, 2024 President Joseph Boakai is devoting his birthday celebration to raising funds for the JNB Foundation so it can continue to help people and local institutions in the country. Ahead of President Boakia's planned birthday on November 30th, the 2024 Birthday Committee has for months been working vigorously behind the curtains, out of a small office near Monrovia City Hall to meet deadline, and has been collecting attractive donations from individuals and local business institutions as well as inviting foreign dignitaries including presidents for this special event, according to committee sources.

At the same time, birthday committee's head, Mrs. Linda Karim-Creevey, also Ambassador for the JNB Foundation, recently launched her first

Founded in 2008, the school's current population falls between 340-350 students and is tuition free, according to its registrar; a US \$30.00 annual fee collected from each student goes to activities and other event fees. For most parents who can barely afford the two-set uniform tradition for their kids at the school due to lack of job, coupled with the harsh economic situation, it was quite exciting for most last Thursday when the JNB Foundation's Ambassador Linda Karim-Creevey, announced she

The school is run by Pastor Samuel

Brooks as principal with Pastor

Regina Wamah as registrar.

next academic school year. Meanwhile, the Birthday Team, according to information shared in the group's chatroom, was scheduled to go out into various Monrovia neighborhoods at the weekend to continue their outreach with the First Lady of

would give scholarships to a 100

students at the school come the

sets minimum salary at US\$150 Starts from page 6

Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, revealed that approximately 28,200 government workers, representing 45% of the government workforce, are set to benefit salary top-ups in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

However, under former President Weah administration, some government employees were paid salaries below \$40, which violated the Decent Work Act. At the time, former President Weah denied any knowledge of the issue. Similarly, during his administration, protests took place at various government entities including the Ministry of Information, Culture Affairs and Tourism, and the Ministry of Transport, where workers' unions expressed dissatisfaction with the inhumane treatment

regarding salary structure. However, Minister Ngafuan, during his appearance at the ministry of information's regular briefing indicated that to address some of these challenges, they have allocated funds in the FY2025 budget.

In other words, he says, they have allocated US\$2.6 million to enable the ministries of Health and Education to begin a multi-year process of addressing the perennial issues of volunteer workers after an exhaustive and thorough vetting exercise.

"We recognize that the cost to fully put all volunteer workers on the payroll is very high, hovering around US\$15 million, which the Government cannot fully afford in FY 2025, given the competing demands on the fiscal space." Ngafuan says.

Besides, he notes that government has allocated nearly US\$3 million in the draft budget for FY 2025 to ensure beginning January 2025, nearly two thousand teachers with C-Certificates, B-Certificates, Associate and Bachelor's degrees, who are currently being paid below their respective pay grades, will receive salaries to commensurate with their qualifications.

Likewise he adds, they have also included at least US\$225 to be added to salaries of specialist doctors in the health sector, who are being paid below their pay grades, to fully regularize their pay starting January. On November 18, 2024, President Joseph Boakai submitted the Draft National Budget for FY 2025 to the 55th Legislature to initiate review and approval process.

Gov't allots \$52.9m for roads Starts from page 11

mineral sector supported by structural reforms in key sectors. They include energy, trade, transportation, and financial services.

From all indications, Minister Ngafuan believes that the administration is making significant strides through deliberate actions to invest in programs that have real impacts on the current and future well-being of the people. Consequently, in this proposed budget, he states that the government is increasing the proportion of Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP) expenditure from US\$67.4 million in FY2024 to US\$98 million in FY2025.He indicated that this represents a 54 percent increase.

As a result, the ratio of PSIP expenditure to the overall budget will expand from 9 percent in FY2024 to 12 percent in FY2025.Eighty-six percent of PSIP allocations

totaling US\$87 million is dedicated to multi-sector projects under the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID), the government's development plan for 2025-2029, which is set to launch in the next few

In education, Ngafuan revealed that the government has almost US\$7 million for PSIP projects.

Of that amount, US\$4 million is for the renovation and expansion of school facilities operated by the Ministry of Education, the Monrovia Consolidated School System, and others.

"We have also allocated funds to ensure that the Digital Transformation Program which is set to continue for 2025," he continued. Under the Rule of Law, the Finance Minster stated that a total of \$4.4 million is proposed for various

projects. They include the

ongoing renovation of military housing and Liberia National Police barracks located on Horton Avenue in Monrovia.

Under Sanitation and health, he said the government is proposing US\$14 million for major projects including drug revolving funds at community pharmacies, electricity, and capacity expansion at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital, reconstruction of the C.H. Rennie Hospital in Margibi County, and Jackson F. Doe Memorial Hospital in Nimba County from a regional referral facility to a national referral hospital.

"And, in Tourism, we are seeking legislation to create an autonomous tourism board; hence, propose US\$500,000 for various interventions including the development of plans and marketing strategies for the tourism sector to enable us to leverage our vast tourism potential," he said.



community outreach program, Liberia helping to lead the youths presently in schools within Montserrado County, where Linda and her team gave out stationary items such as exercise notepad for students.

At Kingdom Building School Ministry along the RIA Highway, in Duazon, Linda Karim-Creevey herself led other committee members, distributing several boxes of notepads that had President Boakai's portrait engraved on the cover. Mrs. Karim-Creevey was accompanied by JNB Foundation Executive Director Jackson K.

George and Chairman Rev. David

Fartomah.

designed to fete Liberian exercise. Up till press time, it youths, focusing especially on wasn't confirmed whether President Boakai himself, currently visiting neighboring Sierra Leone would form a part of the outreach exercise.

Among items listed for Saturday's distribution among needy people, included 20 bags of rice, 8 boxes of chicken, 120 blankets plus TVs. among many other things. Among the group of women working with the president's birthday committee, and helping with the community outreach distributions are, Madams Shirley K. Saad, Robena Lewis and the president's daughter, Marlee Yekeh. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Le Parti de l'Unité c par ses auxiliai

au pouvoir, fait face à ■une vague de mécontentement de la part de ses auxiliaires, qui se disent abandonnés par la direction. Ces groupes, réunis à l'hôtel Golden Key à Paynesville, ont organisé une

e Parti de l'Unité (PU), vos voitures », ont scandé certains protestataires, exprimant un profond sentiment de trahison.

> Une fracture au sein du parti Ces tensions révèlent un fossé croissant entre les élites dirigeantes et la base militante du PU, traditionnellement perçue comme le moteur du parti. Les

ses membres. Si les dirigeants ignorent ces avertissements, le risque d'une fracture interne pourrait compromettre l'unité et l'efficacité du PU dans les défis politiques à venir.

Un appel à la cohésion Pendant ce temps, le Comité exécutif national (CEN) a conclu, le 17 novembre 2024, une réunion stratégique de



manifestation en bloquant l'entrée principale de l'établissement, exigeant une réponse rapide à leurs doléances.

Les manifestants reprochent à la direction du parti d'avoir « oublié les sacrifices » consentis pour le succès de la formation politique. « Nous dansions dans l'eau sale

auxiliaires accusent les membres deux jours axée sur la du Comité exécutif national de négliger les préoccupations des militants de terrain, au profit de priorités qu'ils jugent déconnectées des réalités de la

Ce mouvement de contestation, survenu en marge d'une réunion du Comité exécutif national tenue à l'hôtel Golden Key, met pendant que vous étiez en lumière la nécessité pour le confortablement assis dans parti de répondre aux attentes de

gouvernance et la transparence. Cet événement, organisé à Paynesville, visait à renforcer le soutien à l'Agenda ARREST du président Joseph Nyuma Boakai.

Le secrétaire général du PU, Amos Tweh, a profité de l'occasion pour rappeler

➤ CONT'D ON PAGE 09

Crise politique à la Chambre des représentants : Jonathan Fonati Koffa défie les députés dissidents

Chambre des ∎représentants du Liberia, Jonathan Fonati Koffa, confronté à une contestation croissante, défie les députés dissidents cherchant à le destituer. Il les invite à prouver leur capacité à rassembler les 49 signatures exigées par la Constitution pour justifier leur démarche.

Depuis septembre, les députés opposés à M. Koffa n'ont pas réussi à mobiliser ce soutien nécessaire, révélant l'impasse au sein de l'Assemblée.

Lors d'une conférence de presse tenue le 18 novembre au Capitole, M. Koffa a fermement rappelé que la Constitution et le règlement intérieur de la Chambre stipulent qu'un minimum de 37 députés est requis pour élire un président, et 49 pour le destituer. "Je n'accepterai aucune action

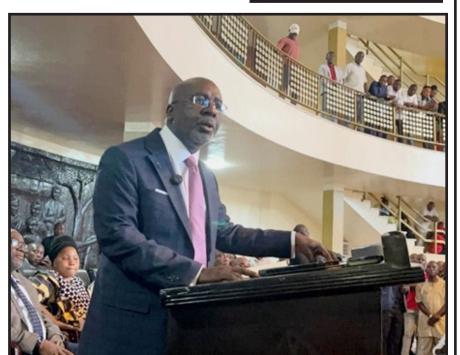
président de la qui ne respecte pas ces règles. dans des hôtels pour faire Les affirmations d'une prétendue majorité ne suffisent pas", a-t-il déclaré.

> Mise en cause des pratiques parlementaires

M. Koffa a également dénoncé les pratiques de certains députés, accusés d'organiser des réunions

pression sur des dirigeants élus. "Il est temps de mettre un terme à ces tactiques et de se consacrer pleinement au travail pour le peuple libérien. Ces distractions ne servent ni la Chambre ni le

CONT'D ON PAGE 09



Éditorial

Les dangers des pièces de monnaie pour les enfants, un problème à ne pas sous-estimer

es enfants dans les foyers libériens sont exposés à des risques sanitaires accrus, en particulier avec la disponibilité des nouvelles pièces de 5 et 10 dollars libériens. Souvent perçues comme des jouets, ces pièces finissent fréquemment dans la bouche des enfants, augmentant ainsi le risque de les avaler, ce qui peut entraîner des complications de santé graves.

Les enfants sont en contact avec ces pièces non seulement à la maison, mais aussi à l'école et dans les lieux publics, où elles leur sont souvent remises lors de petits achats : pain, bonbons, jus, biscuits, ou autres en-cas pendant les récréations. Cette situation inquiète de plus en plus les professionnels de santé, après les révélations de Jackson Coleman, technicien en radiologie à Monrovia, qui a pris en charge 28 cas d'ingestion de pièces, dont 12 ont nécessité une intervention chirurgicale.

L'ingestion de pièces peut entraîner des risques majeurs pour la santé des enfants, tels que l'étouffement, des blessures internes, voire des lésions permanentes au niveau du système digestif et des autres organes vitaux. Ces dangers, bien qu'évidents, sont encore trop souvent sous-estimés, ce qui nécessite une prise de conscience collective.

En tant que parent, il est difficile d'imaginer l'angoisse que pourrait provoquer la découverte qu'un enfant a avalé une pièce. Si un tel incident survient, les conséquences peuvent être imprévisibles et graves. Il est donc impératif de prendre des mesures pour prévenir ce type d'accident.

Les pièces de 5 et 10 dollars libériens font partie d'une nouvelle série de monnaie lancée par la Banque centrale du Liberia dans le cadre d'une réforme monétaire. Composées d'acier plaqué nickel et dotées de caractéristiques de sécurité, elles sont désormais couramment utilisées pour les petites transactions quotidiennes dans le pays. Toutefois, leur omniprésence dans les échanges implique également un accès plus facile pour les enfants.

Face à cette situation préoccupante, il est crucial que les parents redoublent de vigilance et prennent des mesures pour garder ces pièces hors de portée des enfants. Elles ne doivent pas être laissées dans des endroits facilement accessibles, comme les poches ou les tiroirs non sécurisés.

La Banque centrale du Liberia n'a pas encore réagi officiellement à cette problématique, mais il semble nécessaire de mettre en place une campagne de sensibilisation à l'échelle nationale. Des programmes de communication, notamment à travers les radios, les écoles et dans les communautés, pourraient aider à mieux informer le public sur les risques liés à l'accessibilité des pièces de monnaie pour les enfants.

Il est essentiel que la société toute entière prenne des mesures pour éviter un problème de santé publique qui pourrait affecter gravement nos enfants. Comme le dit l'adage : « Un mal évité en vaut deux. »

Bien que ces pièces soient nécessaires pour faciliter les transactions, en particulier dans les marchés et les transports en commun, leur gestion doit être plus rigoureuse afin de prévenir les accidents. Garder ces pièces hors de portée des enfants est une précaution essentielle pour leur sécurité.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2024. www.project-syndicate.org

rançais

l'importance de la solidarité au coupables. sein du parti et du Versune unité renforcée gouvernement. Il a exhorté les Le président du parti, le responsables à faire passer les révérend J. Luther Tarpeh, a intérêts nationaux avant toute déclaré que la réunion avait considération personnelle ou permis de consolider la partisane.

à la poursuite des responsables Liberia », a-t-il affirmé.

cohésion interne et de Dans une résolution adoptée renouveler l'engagement des lors de cette réunion, le CEN a responsables à travailler pour le également insisté sur la bien commun. « Le Parti de nécessité d'une gouvernance l'Unité ne se contente pas exemplaire et d'une lutte d'être un allié du président accrue contre la corruption, Boakai ; il est le pilier de la appelant à des audits rapides et transformation future du

Crise politique à la Chambre des représentants :

insistance.

Il a critiqué les séances informelles tenues par ses conjointes, les qualifiant d'illégales. Selon lui, ces rassemblements n'ont aucun fondement constitutionnel ou juridique, conformément à la Paralysie politique Constitution de 1986 et aux lois Cette impasse paralyse régissant la Chambre des progressivement les opérations représentants.

médiation infructueuse

Par ailleurs, M. Koffa lui-même Malgré cette crise, le bureau de peine à réunir les 39 députés la Chambre, sous la direction de nécessaires pour atteindre le M. Koffa, a remis un bus de 36 quorum et poursuivre les places et trois nouveaux travaux parlementaires.

médiation, une délégation du publiques, des Finances, et des Parlement de la CEDEAO, dirigée par sa présidente,

pays", a-t-il affirmé avec Hadja Memounatou Ibrahim, s'est rendue au Liberia. "Nous avons accueilli nos collègues de la CEDEAO pour trouver une opposants dans les Chambres issue à cette crise. Malheureusement, aucun consensus n'a pu être atteint entre les deux camps", a-t-il expliqué.

gouvernementales, aggravant Un manque de quorum et une les défis auxquels le pays est confronté.

véhicules aux départements de Dans une tentative de la Presse et des Affaires Ressources humaines, dans le but d'améliorer leur efficacité

Le ministère du Genre lance une formation de cina iours sur les budgets sensibles au genre

Le ministère du Genre, des communiqué.Le Projet au 22 novembre 2024, réunit les plans gouvernementaux. membres des Unités Genre et Le ministère cherche programme, inscrit dans le inclusive de la gouvernance. cadre du Composant 4 du Projet d'autonomisation des femmes « En formant les fonctionnaires

Enfants et de la Protection d'autonomisation des femmes sociale a entamé ce lundi une au Liberia, financé par la formation de cinq jours axée Banque mondiale à hauteur de sur les budgets sensibles au 44,6 millions de dollars genre et participatifs (GRPB). américains, cible six comtés Organisée à Monrovia, cette parmi les quinze que compte le initiative vise à doter les pays : Montserrado, Bomi, fonctionnaires publics des Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu, compétences nécessaires pour Grand Gedeh et Rivercess. intégrer l'égalité des genres L'objectif principal est de dans la planification et la promouvoir l'égalité des genres gestion des ressources et l'autonomisation des publiques. Selon un femmes et des filles, tout en communiqué officiel, la intégrant ces priorités dans les formation, qui se déroule du 18 politiques, programmes et

Inclusion Sociale (GSIUs) ainsi également à combler les que des représentants des lacunes en matière de départements chargés des connaissances des GSIUs et des dépenses publiques au sein du entités participantes, en g o u v e r n e m e n t . « C e promouvant une approche plus

au Liberia (LWEP), vise à à la conception et à la mise en renforcer les capacités des œuvre de budgets sensibles au participants dans l'analyse genre, cette initiative axée sur le genre (ABG) et représente une avancée l'évaluation équitable des significative vers une ressources, y compris les répartition équitable des finances, le temps et la main- ressources publiques et un <u>d'œuvre</u> », précise le engagement.

Le rapprochement avec la Russie suscite des inquiétudes : La société civile libérienne avertit des risques pour la stabilité nationale



www.thenewdawnliberia.com

ne organisation de la société civile libérienne, Solidarity and Trust for a New Day (STAND), a exprimé de profondes préoccupations concernant le récent rapprochement diplomatique entre le Liberia et la Russie, le qualifiant de gouvernement libérien, par potentiellement dangereux à long terme.

Dans un communiqué publié à Monrovia le 13 novembre 2024, Affaires étrangères, à fournir des STAND a mis en garde contre l'influence croissante de la Russie en Afrique, soulignant que ses intérêts stratégiques pourraient introduire des complexités géopolitiques susceptibles de compromettre la sécurité nationale et le développement insisté sur la nécessité de économique du Liberia.

Ces inquiétudes font suite aux déclarations de la délégation libérienne, conduite par le vice-ministre de la Coopération internationale et de l'Intégration économique, le Dr Ibrahim Nyei, lors de la Conférence ministérielle inaugurale du Forum de partenariat Russie-Afrique à Sotchi. Selon STAND, cette délégation aurait exprimé l'intention du Liberia de renforcer ses relations diplomatiques avec la Russie, un geste perçu comme un changement majeur et inattendu de la politique étrangère libérienne.

L'organisation a souligné que ce réalignement pourrait compromettre les alliances historiques du Liberia avec les Enfin, STAND a exprimé sa États-Unis et leurs partenaires européens. Ces alliances ont été essentielles pour fournir au Liberia des milliards de dollars d'aide et garantir sa sécurité et son développement pendant droits humains associées à la des décennies.

« Ce virage diplomatique inattendu soulève des questions fondamentales sur l'impact à long terme sur la sécurité et l'économie de notre pays », a déclaré STAND.

STAND a également critiqué la demande de coopération en matière de sécurité adressée à la Russie, notant que

l'implication de Moscou dans le Sahel avait été largement condamnée pour son soutien à des régimes militaires et ses effets déstabilisateurs sur la gouvernance démocratique en Afrique de

Par ailleurs, STAND a rappelé que le Liberia avait récemment rompu ses relations avec la Russie et condamné fermement l'invasion de l'Ukraine. Le rétablissement soudain de relations diplomatiques est perçu comme un revirement stratégique majeur qui nécessite des clarifications immédiates quant à ses répercussions possibles sur la stabilité et la souveraineté du

L'organisation a appelé le l'intermédiaire du ministère des explications claires et transparentes sur les engagements pris récemment en Russie. STAND a démontrer en quoi ce partenariat sert les objectifs stratégiques à long terme du Liberia en matière de sécurité et de développement économique.

« Le Liberia doit éviter de devenir un pion dans les rivalités géopolitiques des grandes puissances », a averti STAND, insistant sur la priorité à accorder aux intérêts nationaux.

préoccupation face aux allégations persistantes de violations des Russie. L'organisation a exhorté le gouvernement libérien à adopter une approche prudente et responsable pour préserver la stabilité, la souveraineté et la prospérité démocratique du pays.

Les survivants des massacres au Liberia récla la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre

L'Association des survivants des impatience face à l'inaction des autorités : Tribunal des crimes de guerre et vivant, qui restera pour témoigner?» économiques (WECC) n'est pas établi.

victimes des conflits armés ayant ravagé à apaiser une douleur non reconnue. le Liberia entre 1981 et 2003, insiste sur la nécessité d'enquêter et de poursuivre les responsables des crimes de guerre et des abus économiques. Selon elle, l'absence de justice alimente un profond sentiment de frustration et de

désespoir. Peterson Sonyah, président de l'association et lui-même survivant du massacre de l'église luthérienne de 1990, a vu sept membres de sa famille périr lors de cet événement tragique.

massacres du Liberia a lancé un appel « Beaucoup des auteurs de ces atrocités sont âgés ou urgent à la justice, avertissant qu'elle décèdent. Quant à nous, les survivants, nous pourrait envisager des représailles si le vieillissons aussi. Si justice n'est pas rendue de notre

Il a mis en garde contre le risque de vengeance de la Cette organisation, qui rassemble des part des générations futures, qui pourraient chercher



ARTICLE ARTICLE

The Cancer of Peer Dynamics: Analyzing the Barriers to Youth Growth in Liberia:

By: Austin S Fallah-A True Son of Planet Earth Soil:

WEDNESDAY

he youth of any nation represent its future; they are the architects of tomorrow.

However, for Liberia's youth, the journey toward social and economic development is fraught with challenges that hinder their progress. Among these obstacles are pernicious behaviors often rooted in peer interactions, peer envy, peer bad mouthing, peer lack of vision, and participatory corruption.

These behaviors create a toxic environment that not only delays personal growth but also stifles cultural and national progress. Addressing these issues is not merely a matter of survival for Liberia's youth, but it is imperative if Liberia is to fully engage in the global community of nations. This korero delves into the malignancy of these peer dynamics and posits that transformative change is essential for the empowerment and upliftment of young Liberians. Peer Envy: The Thief of Potential: Peer envy is often seen as a natural part of human existence, arising from the desire to compare oneself with others.

In the context of Liberia, however, envy manifests as an insidious force that blights youth relationships and undermines individual potential. Liberian youth are frequently caught in a cycle of comparison, where the achievements of their peers are met with resentment rather than inspiration. This detrimental perspective not only diminishes a young person's self-worth but also stifles motivation. The implications of such envy are far-reaching.

When young individuals focus on what others have rather than their own abilities and aspirations, they fail to pursue their own goals. The destructive nature of peer envy leads to a culture of mediocrity, where aspirations are stifled by jealousy. Young people must be encouraged to appreciate diversity in talent and achievement, creating a supportive environment that fosters collaboration over competition. Peer Bad Mouthing: The Erosion of Trust: Another barrier to youth growth in Liberia is the prevalence of peer bad mouthing.

In a society where communication often exists within tight-knit circles, the negative impact of bad mouthing can be profound. This behavior leads to the erosion of trust within peer groups and diminishes the collaborative efforts needed for collective progress. Bad mouthing serves several harmful functions.

It creates division, breeds hostility, and perpetuates a cycle of negativity that can engulf entire communities.

As young people participate in gossip and slander, they divert their energy away from meaningful pursuits and instead contribute to a culture of conflict and mistrust.

This behavior creates a chilling effect on open dialogue, making it difficult for individuals to share ideas and collaborate in efforts aimed at community improvement. To counteract these tendencies, youths must adopt a culture of constructive criticism and encouragement. Emphasizing positive reinforcement rather than disparagement fosters an atmosphere where creativity can flourish and innovation becomes a shared value. Peer Lack of Vision: A Collective Blindness: A prevalent challenge young people face in Liberia is the lack of vision among their peers.

Without aspirational role models or a clear framework for success, many youths find themselves stagnant, unable to envision a future beyond their immediate environment. This lack of vision is often perpetuated by limited access to quality education and resources, compounded by societal narratives that reinforce hopelessness. When young people in Liberia lack a vision for their future, they become susceptible to cynicism and complacency.

They internalize the belief that success is unattainable, which perpetuates a cycle of resignation and inactivity. To combat this pervasive issue, communities must foster a culture of mentorship and encouragement, providing young individuals with the tools and inspiration necessary to define their ambitions and work towards their goals. Institutions must take on a greater role in shaping opportunities for young people.

Schools, universities, colleges, and community organizations can empower youths by organizing programs that highlight successful figures in various fields and facilitating workshops aimed at personal and professional development. Peer Participatory Corruption: Ethical Erosion:

Participatory corruption among youth is yet another significant barrier to social and economic development in Liberia.

When young individuals engage in or condone corrupt practices, they not only

compromise their own integrity but also contribute to a systemic malaise that hampers societal progress. Participatory corruption manifests through tacit approval of unethical behaviors, such as bribery or nepotism, and has the potential to perpetuate a cycle of corruption across generations. Corruption undermines faith in public institutions and hinders economic opportunities for young people.

When success is perceived as obtainable only through unethical means, a culture of

corruption thrives, leading to disillusionment among youths who strive for legitimacy.

This ethical erosion prompts talented individuals to abandon their principles in pursuit of success, ultimately leading to societal decay. To rectify this situation, educational institutions, particularly the University of Liberia and community leaders, must actively engage youths in discussions around integrity and ethical behavior.

Young people should be educated about the long-term ramifications of corrupt

Young people should be educated about the long-term ramifications of corrupt practices, including how such actions erode national identity and weaken social cohesion. Establishing a culture that prioritizes accountability over personal gain will create a fertile ground for moral development among Liberia's youth. Youth Participation in Human Rights Abuses: A Tragic Reality:

Alarmingly, some young people in Liberia participate in human rights abuses, influenced by various factors, including poverty, lack of education, and social instability. These abuses, ranging from exploitation to violence, expose the most vulnerable segments of society and severely hinder community development. When youths become perpetrators of human rights violations, they not only contribute to societal harm but also violate their own potential as agents of change.

The circumstances leading to such behavior often arise from desperation and the desire for survival in an environment that offers limited choices. Young individuals may feel compelled to engage in harmful actions as a means of ensuring their own safety or economic viability. It is a tragic irony that those expected to lead the future are drawn into destructive patterns that undermine their very existence.

Addressing this alarming issue requires robust intervention programs that not only educate youths about human rights but also create viable economic alternatives to participation in violence and exploitation.

Initiatives that promote peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and social entrepreneurship can empower young people to reject cycles of abuse. The Path Forward: Mobilizing for Change:

The challenges faced by Liberian youths demand immediate attention.

Transformational change is necessary if the nation's young population is to thrive socially and economically in a globalized world. Civil society, educational institutions, and governmental bodies must align their efforts to foster a culture that mitigates peer envy, bad mouthing, lack of vision, participatory corruption, and human rights abuses. Enacting policies that recognize and respond to the unique challenges faced by youths will empower this demographic to embrace their potential.

Training and mentorship programs can encourage young individuals to cultivate their skills and overcome the barriers that hinder their growth. It is equally crucial to create environments where positive peer relationships can flourish, inspiring collaboration and healthy competition. Additionally, fostering an inclusive dialogue among youth about their rights and responsibilities is paramount.

When young people feel valued and heard, they are more likely to engage in civic activities and advocate for their communities. Mobilizing youth to participate in governance and community-building efforts can harness their energy and creativity for positive change.

Encouraging a robust civil society that holds both peers and leaders accountable will shift the culture toward one of integrity and progress. As young Liberians begin to embrace their roles as stewards of their society, they can disrupt the cycle of negative behaviors that have pervaded their experiences.

Peer dynamics are powerful forces that shape the social and economic landscape for Liberian youth.

Peer envy, bad mouthing, lack of vision, participatory corruption, and involvement in human rights abuses pose substantial challenges that must be addressed if young individuals are to thrive.

However, through concerted efforts and communal responsibility, it is possible to foster a more supportive environment where empowerment and growth can take root. The awakening of Liberia's youth to their potential and their capacity to enact change is vital for the nation's future. It is time to cultivate a culture of integrity, vision, and inclusivity so that Liberia's young people can compete on the world stage with confidence, resilience, and hope.

Military authorities in neighboring Guinea have dispelled A Defense Ministry fears of rising military tension at their border with Liberia.

By Othello B. Garblah

onrovia, November 20, 2024/ Guinea's **M**military spokesperson, Toumany

soldiers at the Liberian border town of Sefudu in Lofa County, following said report and reports that Guinean Border Patrol officers have

spokesperson told the New Dawn that the military will issue an official statement on Wednesday, November 20. Last week, the Liberia Government announced the

suspected ongoing



Sangaré, told the New Dawn through a local journalist on Tuesday, November 19, that there are no ongoing military hostilities at its borders with Liberia.

The head of the Guinean Army Information and Public Relations Department (DIRPA) said there had been no incident at the border in recent days that indicates ongoing military hostility.

"None at all! There have been no incidents. On the contrary, the commander of the barracks has just completed a tour of the Guinean borders. During these visits, they maintain contact with Liberian and Sierra Leonean officials. The authorities communicate with each other, and there are no issues," Sangaré said. His response comes amid reports of a Guinean Border Patrol team entering a Liberian border town and taking down the Liberian flag in an act of provocation. Recent images of Liberian

concerns at the fragile neighboring Guinea. border.

Images of Liberian troops at the Liberian border town in Lofa

Sangare, a civilian appointed by Guinea Junta leader Col Mamady Doumbouya by decree, told the New Dawn through the local correspondent with Guinee 160.com that it was not possible for Guinean soldiers provocations.

"No, that is not true. How could we possibly go into Liberian territory and lower their flag? Ask him to provide you with the actual, true version of events. The Guinean army is not an army of conquest. Its mission is to safeguard the national territory," he told our colleague in response to questions posed by the New Dawn.

Authorities at the Liberian Ministry of National Defense have yet to comment on the ongoing situation at the financier of the recruitment. Liberian border with Guinea.

been intimidating Liberians in recruitment of Ex-fighters for the area, have raised security subversive activities in

The government says its revelation is based on intelligence provided by Guinean authorities and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

Liberia's Information Minister Jerolinmek Piah disclosed at a press conference in Monrovia to engage in such on Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

> Minister Piah says the suspected recruitment is targeting Liberians, particularly former fighters, for what he terms "subversive action in Guinea."

He did not say exactly where the alleged recruitment is taking place. Still, he narrates that, based on assistance from INTERPOL, the Liberia government has arrested two Guinean nationals, Abraham Sheriff and Zayzay Fassou Touray, with Sheriff serving as

Gov't allots \$52.9m for roads

Minister Ngafuan believes that the administration is making significant strides through deliberate actions to invest in programs that impact the people.

By Lewis S. Teh onrovia, November 20, 2024: The Liberian government has announced the allotment of US\$52.9m, including US\$37.6m, in the draft 2025 budget to build and rehabilitate roads across the country.Liberia's Finance Minister, Mr. Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, announced the allotment during a press briefing on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at the Ministry of Information on Capitol Hill.

Minister Ngafuan said the key to unlocking Liberia's economy and providing access to other parts of the country is to invest in building road infrastructures.

"To this end, we have allocated US\$52.9 million, including US\$37.6 million for the rehabilitation of major roads," the Finance Minister stated. When approved by the Legislature, Ngafuan suggested that it would encompass the rehabilitation of rural roads and

US\$833 million or 97.8% and Contingent Revenue of 18.8 Million or 2.2%.

Of this amount, Domestic Revenue constitutes US\$791.76 million or 93 percent of the total envelope.

This includes Tax Revenue of US\$633.72 million or 80 percent of domestic revenue and non-tax Revenue of US\$138.5 million or 17.4 percent. External resources amount to US\$60 million, or 7.0 percent of the total revenue envelope, to be sourced from the World Bank (US\$40 million) and the European Union (US\$20 million). This represents a 50 percent increase in external resources from FY2024.

"In the FY2025 Draft National Budget, we are projecting an increase of 15.3 % over the FY2024 Recast budget of 738.9 million," he explained.

"The increase in the resource envelope is attributed to the steady performance of domestic revenue, especially taxes on income and



the construction of bailey bridges across the country.

Ngafuan revealed that there is counterpart funding for ongoing Sanniquellie - Loguatuo highway, and the Salayea - Beyan Town section of the Gbarnga -Mendikorma highway. For the infrastructure and the Pliable Roads Program launched earlier this year, Minister Ngafuan disclosed additional US\$15 million has been set aside.

According to him, the budget submission was done under Section 17.1 of the 2019 Amendment and Restatement of the Public Financial Management Act of 2009.

The total revenue envelope of the Draft National Budget for FY2025 is projected at US\$851.8

million. It comprises Core Revenue of

profits, goods and services, and international trade," he continued. In the envelope, Minister The Liberian economy is projected to grow by 5.8 percent in 2025, up from a forecast of 5.1 percent in works on key road corridors. He 2024. The 2025 projections are named the road corridors as the based on strong performances in Saclepea - Zwedru segment of the mining and panning sector (8.5 the SECRAMP project, the percent), the manufacturing sector (6.9 percent), the agriculture & fisheries sector (5.2 percent), and the services sector (5.0 percent). According to Minister improvement of other Ngafuan, the top two contributors to the GDP in 2025 will be the services sector, with 38 percent, and the agriculture and fisheries sector, with 29 percent.

The rest will be mining and panning at 19.2 percent, forestry at about 8 percent, and manufacturing at 6 percent. The growth forecast for the period of the ARREST Agenda (2025-2029) remains promising, with an average growth rate of 5.9 percent. This upward performance will be influenced by investments in public sector projects and the

Starts from back page

Majority bloc suspends

disrespect and public disrepute to the majority

bloc. The majority bloc said its decision is in line with the House's standing rules 48.1. At the same time, Montserrado County District # 9 Rep. Frank Saah Foko, Gbarpolu County District # 1

Rep. Zinnah Norman, and Sinoe County District #3 Rep. Alex S. Noah are still undergoing investigation by the committee of the whole. The group noted that a decision will be taken by the body on Thursday, November 21, 2024. The majority bloc has also

unanimously voted to

remove Montserrado County District #16 Representative Dixon Seboe as chairman of the Ways, Means, and Finance Committee.

The group has also removed Margibi County District # 3 Representative Ellen Attoh Wreh as Co-Chair on the Ways, Means, Finance, and Budget Committee.

The absentee lawmakers have appointed Maryland County District #1 Rep. P. Mark Jurry as Acting Chairman, while Bong County District # 2 Representative James Kolleh has now replaced J. Marvin Cole as Acting Chair on Rules, Order, a n d

Administration. Meanwhile,

the majority bloc has mandated the Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank of Liberia, and all commercial banks not to do business with the suspended lawmakers on behalf of the House of Representatives.

In a related development, two strong men from embattled Speaker J. Fonati Koffa's bloc have joined the majority bloc. They have increased the number of Representatives in the anti-Koffa bloc to 45.

According to them, their decision was not influenced by any bribe, but it was a decision made by their employer and in the interest of the Liberian people.

CONT'D ON PAGE 7



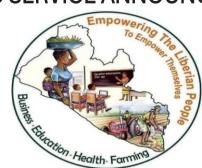
VOL. 14 NO. 206

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

PRICE LD\$50.00

November 8, 2024

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT



This serves as an official and pleasing announcement to inform all the Executives, Partisans, Well-wishers, Sympathizers, Friends and Stakeholders of the insurmountable Movement for Economic Empowerment - MOVEE and the General Public that the Party - MOVEE will hold its Third (3rd) Emergency National Convention, beginning at 9:00a.m. with the accreditation and validation of the required and invited distinguished delegates, followed by the Formal Opening Ceremony and Business Session on Thursday, November 28, 2024, Day One and ending at 6:00p.m. following the holding of the Official Closing Ceremony on Sunday, December 1, 2024, Day Four.

The Emergency National Convention of the Genuine New MOVEE will be held in the Rev. Dr Samuel B. Reeves, Jr. Graduation Hall at the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary on the Robertsfield Highway in Paynesville, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, under the THEME: Envisioning and Enhancing the Present and Future of the Movement for Economic Empowerment - MOVEE.

Meanwhile, the Calendar of Events for the aforementioned Convention of MOVEE is as follows:

November 27, 2024

I. Arrival of Convention Delegates from the Fifteen(15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia; with each County Chairman or Chairperson leading Delegates from each County

DAY ONE:

November 28, 2024

- I. Accreditation and validation of the required and invited distinguished Convention Delegates
- 2. Formal Opening Ceremony
- 3. Report from the Adhoc Special Constitution Review Committee on the Revision of the Amended 2016 Bi-Laws and Constitution of MOVEE
- 4. Election and Induction of Newly Elected National Executive Officials of MOVEE to fill vacant positions
- 5. Status of the Party
- 6. Report from the Ad-hoc Special Resolution Committee
- 7. Any Other Business

DAY TWO:

November 29, 2024

 Day One of the Post October 2023 General and Presidential Elections Retreat for the National Executive Committee of MOVEE and All other Delegates from the Fifteen (15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia attending the Third (3rd) Emergency National Convention of MOVEE in furtherance of the irreversible process of Genuine Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, aimed at Moving the Genuine New MOVEE Forward

DAY THREE:

November 30, 2024

- 1. Day Two of the Post October 2023 General and Presidential Elections Retreat for the National Executive Committee of MOVEE and All other Delegates from the Fifteen(15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia attending the Third (3rd) Emergency National Convention of MOVEE in furtherance of the irreversible process of Genuine Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, aimed at Moving the Genuine New MOVEE Forward
- 2. Way Forward from the October 2023 Post General and Presidential Elections Retreat for the National Executive Committee of MOVEE and All other Delegates from the Fifteen(15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia attending the Third (3rd) Emergency National Convention of MOVEE in furtherance of the irreversible process of Genuine Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, aimed at Moving the Genuine New MOVEE Forward

DAY FOUR:

December 1, 2024

- 1. Thanksgiving Service
- . Launching by the Movement for Economic Empowerment MOVEE of the Ambassador Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr. Women Vocational Skills Training and Empowerment Program located at the National Headquarters of MOVEE
- 3. Official Closing Ceremony of the Third (3rd) Emergency National Convention of the Orange Revolution Movement for Economic Empowerment -MOVEE

DAY FIVE:

December 2, 2024

1. Departure of Delegates of the Third(3rd) Emergency National Convention of the Great Orange Revolution - MOVEE to the Fifteen (15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia

All Members of the National Executive Committee, Partisans, Well-wishers, Friends, Sympathizers, Stakeholders and the General Public are advised to take note that only the required invited and accredited distinguished delegates from the the National Executive Committee and all the Fifteen(15) Counties of the Republic of Liberia shall be allowed to enter the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary and access its Rev. Dr. Samuel B. Reeves, Jr. Graduation Hall to participate in the Convention. Please understand that MOVEE appreciates and cherishes all of its Partisans, Well-wishers, Stakeholders, Friends and Sympathizers, but, as all other Political Parties everywhere in the world, everyone can not fit in the Convention Hall, no matter how large it is, and moreover, all partisans, well-wishers and stakeholders can not be delegates to a Convention, no matter where it may be in the world. However, required invited Delegates shall include, but not limited to all the National Executive Committee Members and representations from all the Fifteen (15) Counties and the National Headquarters of MOVEE in line with the Constitution of the Party.

Thanks in advance for your very kind understanding!

Mrs. Angeline K. W. Gborie Chairperson Third(3rd) Emergency National Convention functions for alleged misconduct. The suspended lawmakers include Bong County District # 3 Rep. J. Marvin Cole, Montserrado County District # 15 Rep. Abu Kamara, and Montserrado County District #13 Rep. Edward P. Flomo.

without benefit and all legislative before an investigative committee of the whole. Organized by the absentee lawmakers, the investigative committee is supposed to

probe allegations of gross

Everyone is a Winner It's Raining Rewards. **Dial *156#** to transact and win.

Majority bloc suspends

The absentee lawmakers have failed to obtain the required 49 lawmakers to oust Speaker Koffa over a month after the Koffa removal plot was launched.

By Bridgett Milton

onrovia, November 20, 2024: The majority bloc of the 55th House of Representatives has, with immediate effect, suspended three lawmakers for 30 session days

The majority bloc is made of absentee lawmakers who are seeking the removal of House Speaker Fonati Koffa.The group has failed to obtain the required 49 lawmakers to oust Speaker Koffa over a month after the Koffa removal plot was launched.

However, the majority bloc claimed it was suspending the three lawmakers on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, after it failed to have them appear



CONT'D ON PAGE 11